



IFW/1771

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of) Attorney Docket No.: SAKAG0024
Kiyokazu TANAKA) Confirmation No.: 4981
Serial No.: 10/506,669)
Filed: March 15, 2005) Group Art Unit: 1771
)
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING) Examiner: Unknown
BIODEGRADABLE FIBER)
MATERIAL MOLDINGS)
) Date: June 9, 2005

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, this Information Disclosure Statement in connection with the above-identified application is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b):

- ☐ within three months of the filing date of this application (not a C.P.A.);
- ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the National Stage;
- ☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits of, after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under §1.114.

A copy of each non-U.S. document identified on the attached Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B is attached, however, in accordance with Official Gazette Notice dated August 5, 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

Attached is a copy of the Search Report issued in the corresponding European application. Since all of the documents cited herein were cited in said Search Report, it is believed that the relevancy of each document cited is clear from the Search Report. Accordingly, no further comment with regard to the disclosures of these documents is believed to be required.

The Search Report was completed on March 9, 2005 and mailed on April 1, 2005, less than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the attached documents be considered and officially cited, and that the Examiner initial a copy of Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, and return them to the undersigned to indicate that the documents have been considered.

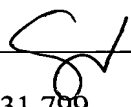
It is believed that the present Information Disclosure Statement complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-8, but should the filing of this paper necessitate a fee, the

Director is hereby authorized to charge the necessary fee to Deposit Account No.

50-1281.

Respectfully submitted,

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/506,669
Filing Date	September 3, 2004
First Named Inventor	Kiyokazu Tanaka
Art Unit	1771
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	SAKAG0024

Sheet	1	of	2
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A	WO 98/30081 A	07-16-1998	Heleen Lamoree		
	B	GB 2 050 459 A	01-07-1981	Gasland S		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/506,669
		Filing Date	September 3, 2005
		First Named Inventor	Kiyokazu Tanaka
		Art Unit	1771
		Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet 2	of 2	Attorney Docket Number	SAKAG0024

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	C	Database Chemabs Chemical Abstracts Service, Columbus, Ohio, "Agricultural Mulch Film and Its Manufacture", XP002320526.	
	D	European Search Report (EP 03 71 0239) completed March 9, 2005 and mailed April 1, 2005.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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